

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 7499**

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 454

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 10, 2009

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Medicaid Health Facility Quality Assessment Fee.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Sen. Miller

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
DEDICATED  
X FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill provides that Continuing Care Retirement Communities that are exempt from payment of the Quality Assessment Fee (QAF) must meet certain requirements.

The bill eliminates the role of the Department of State Revenue in collecting QAFs and provides that the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) shall collect the QAF by offsetting the QAF assessment against a Medicaid payment due to a facility or in another manner.

The bill extends the Health Facility Quality Assessment Fee until August 1, 2011. (The fee currently expires August 1, 2009.)

The bill removes outdated provisions concerning the methodology to be used to determine applicability of the QAF.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2009.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** This bill would extend the required increase in Medicaid nursing facility reimbursement for two years. The current statute requires that 80% of the QAF collected, must be used to leverage federal Medicaid matching funds to increase nursing facility reimbursement targeting specific uses. The remaining 20% of the estimated QAF must be used to offset Medicaid costs incurred by the state. Should federal financial participation become unavailable to provide for the additional reimbursement, current law provides that OMPP will cease to collect the QAF.

The responsibility for the Department of State Revenue to collect the QAF is eliminated by the bill. OMPP

will assume that responsibility by offsetting the collection of the QAF against Medicaid payments.

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Extension of the QAF:* Extending the authorization for the collection of the QAF and the related increased expenditures from August 2009 to August 2011 would authorize an estimated annual collection of about \$100 M for each of FY 2010 and FY 2011 if nursing facility days remain constant. The total annual collections and the state share of the collections are as follows.

Fiscal Year	QAF Collections	State 20% Share
FY 2006	\$ 333.9 M	\$ 62.7 M
FY 2007	\$ 108.3 M	\$ 21.7 M
FY 2008	\$ 107.7 M	\$ 21.5 M
FY 2009	\$ 102.1 M	\$ 20.4 M
FY 2010*	\$ 100.9 M	\$ 20.1 M
FY 2011*	\$ 99.9 M	\$ 19.8 M
* Estimated.		

*Definition of Community Care Retirement Community:* The bill defines a Community Care Retirement Community (CCRC) for the purposes of the collection of the QAF as a facility that provides independent living services, assisted living services, and health facility services in a campus setting with common areas. CCRCs are also required to assess each resident with an average initial life interest payment of \$150,000 for the cost of the resident's care. The bill further provides that the entire life interest payment must be entirely exhausted before the resident may be eligible for Medicaid. Nursing facilities that are part of a CCRC are exempt from the QAF. By specifying a more stringent definition for CCRCs, the bill may prevent nursing facilities that meet the current broader definition used for consumer protection by the Secretary of State's Office, from avoiding paying the QAF. The extent of any impact associated with the more stringent definition would depend on the size and utilization of any facilities that might register as a CCRC to avoid paying the QAF.

*Background:* In the current model approved by CMS, the amount of the QAF is based on a nursing facility's total annual patient days. Quality assessments of \$10 per non-Medicare patient day are to be collected from nursing facilities with total annual patient days of less than 70,000 days. Facilities with annual patient days equal to or greater than 70,000 days will be assessed \$2.50 per non-Medicare day. Local government-owned nursing facilities will be assessed \$2.50 per non-Medicare patient day, as well. Nursing facilities that are continuing care retirement communities, hospital-based, or owned by the state are exempt from the QAF.

Medicaid is a jointly funded state and federal program. Funding for direct services is reimbursed at approximately 63% by the federal government, while the state share is about 37%. Funding for administrative services is generally shared 50/50.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** See *Explanation of State Revenues*, above, as it relates to municipally owned or county-owned nursing facilities or health facilities.

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**State Agencies Affected:** OMPP; Department of State Revenue; State Department of Health.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Municipally owned or county-owned nursing facilities or health facilities.

**Information Sources:** Family and Social Services Administration, OMPP.

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